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Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

"(a) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

"(b) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

"(c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

"(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

"(e) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

"(f) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons"

was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 61/90, 61/92 to 61/94, 61/96 and 61/97 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it,

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namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (A/62/129);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/62/130);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (A/62/140);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (A/62/153);

(e) Letter dated 15 June 2007 from the representative of Sao Tome and Principe to the Secretary-General (A/62/96-S/2007/393).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.4

5. At the 16th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Peru, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (A/C.1/62/L.4).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.4, provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.4 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.15

8. At the 18th meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament" (A/C.1/62/L.15).

9. At the 24th meeting, on 1 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.15, provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.15 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.23

11. At the 11th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of India, on behalf of Bangladesh, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (A/C.1/62/L.23). Subsequently, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Egypt, El Salvador, Haiti, Jamaica, Jordan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Philippines and Samoa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At its 22nd meeting, on 30 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.23 by a recorded vote of 115 to 50, with 11 abstentions (see para. 25, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan.

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.24/Rev.1

13. At the 19th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa" (A/C.1/62/L.24). Subsequently, Barbados and Dominica joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

14. At its 25th meeting, on 2 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/62/L.24/Rev.1).

15. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it document A/C.1/62/L.54/Rev.1, which contained a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.24/Rev.1, provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

16. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.24/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 164 to 1, with 5 abstentions (see para. 25, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia,

Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.35

17. At the 16th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Nepal, on behalf of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific" (A/C.1/62/L.35). Subsequently, Barbados, Dominica, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Samoa and Solomon Islands joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.35, provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.35 without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.52/Rev.1

20. At the 21st meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa" (A/C.1/62/L.52).

21. At its 25th meeting, on 2 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/62/L.52/Rev.1).

22. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.52/Rev.1, provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

23. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon orally revised operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution by replacing the words "period 2005-2006" with the words "period 2006-2007".

24. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.52/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 25, draft resolution VI).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

25. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000, 56/25 E of 29 November 2001, 57/89 of 22 November 2002, 58/60 of 8 December 2003, 59/99 of 3 December 2004, 60/84 of 8 December 2005 and 61/92 of 6 December 2006,

Welcoming the twentieth anniversary of the Regional Centre,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[1] which, inter alia, concludes that the Regional Centre has continued to provide assistance to States in the Latin American and Caribbean region in the implementation of regional initiatives in the areas of peace and disarmament and development and that during the period under review such assistance was provided in the areas of practical disarmament measures, capacity-building and awareness-raising, in the preparation of national reports on weapons-related instruments and in the provision of forums for discussion among States to facilitate their reaching common positions on disarmament and non-proliferation issues, and welcoming also the Centre's initiation of the process of transferring to the African region its knowledge and best practices in the area of training courses for the law enforcement community on the prevention of illicit firearms trafficking,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[2] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

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[1] A/62/130.

[2] See A/59/119.

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[3] as well as to promoting and assisting the ratification and implementation of existing multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction and to promoting peace and disarmament education projects during the period under review,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Bearing in mind also the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources and cooperation for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction and congratulates* the Regional Centre for the activities carried out in the last year in the areas of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to make and to increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

6. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as in the relationship between disarmament and development;

7. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in the important area of disarmament and development;

8. *Highlights* the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, that, through its activities, the Regional Centre has demonstrated its role as a viable regional actor in assisting States in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean;[4]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

[4] See A/61/157, para. 49.

Draft resolution II
United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005 and 61/90 of 6 December 2006 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[1] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[2] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[4]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 91 of the Final Document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana, on 15 and 16 September 2006, the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,[5]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to advancement in disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with

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[1] A/62/140.

[2] A/62/153.

[3] A/62/130.

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[5] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the regional disarmament branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

Draft resolution III
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[1]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[2] states that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2007 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 61/97 of 6 December 2006,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

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[1] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[2] See resolution S-10/2.

Draft resolution IV
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001, 57/91 of 22 November 2002, 58/61 of 8 December 2003, 59/101 of 3 December 2004, 60/86 of 8 December 2005 and 61/93 of 6 December 2006,

Aware of the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, in particular its institutions in the field of peace, disarmament and security, as well as with relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa for greater effectiveness,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] in which he stated that the Regional Centre's ability to fulfil its mandate continued to be hampered by the lack of funding, in particular core funding,

Deeply concerned that, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General, voluntary contributions continued to decline and remained insufficient for the Regional Centre to fulfil its mandate effectively and efficiently, and that there is no foreseeable reliable source of funding that would ensure its operational sustainability,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/86, requested the Secretary-General to establish, within existing resources, a Consultative Mechanism of interested States, in particular African States, for the reorganization of the Regional Centre,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the conclusion of the work of the Consultative Mechanism for the Reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace

[1] A/62/140.

and Disarmament in Africa, which made concrete recommendations on the Centre's future work programme, as well as on its staffing and funding;[2]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the recommendations of the Consultative Mechanism on the Regional Centre's future work programme, as well as on its staffing and funding;

3. *Invites* the Regional Centre, taking into account the availability of financial resources, to focus its actions on the priorities identified in the recommendations of the Consultative Mechanism;

4. *Recommends* that three posts (one Professional at the P-3 level and two General Service (Other level)) be established and added to the structure of the Regional Centre, and funded from the regular budget, as recommended by the Consultative Mechanism;

5. *Also recommends* that the operating costs of the Regional Centre be funded from the regular budget;

6. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of peace, security and development, and to continue to provide assistance towards stabilizing the financial situation of the Centre;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

[2] See A/62/167.

Draft resolution V
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre has been a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation for peace and disarmament in the region,

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as "the Kathmandu process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, held in Yokohama, Japan, from 21 to 23 August 2006 and Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 13 to 15 December 2006,

Welcoming the activities of the Regional Centre in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education in the Asia-Pacific region, as recommended in the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[2]

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States,

Appreciating highly the overall support that Nepal has extended as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

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[1] A/62/153.
[2] A/57/124.

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Welcomes* the signing of the host country agreement and the memorandum of understanding by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and the Permanent Representative of Nepal on 20 July 2007 for the relocation of the Centre to Kathmandu;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite the necessary preparations with a view to ensuring physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months to enable the Centre to function effectively;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

Draft resolution VI
Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 61/96 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[1] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[2] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[3]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[4]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, and encourages the United Nations Peacebuilding

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[1] A/50/474, annex I.
[2] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.
[3] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.
[4] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

Commission to support efforts for the political stabilization and reconstruction of post-conflict countries;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the revitalization of the work of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa following the decision of the twenty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held at Kigali from 25 to 29 September 2006;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption by the twenty-fifth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held at Sao Tome from 14 to 18 May 2007, of the "Sao Tome Initiative", which provides for the drafting of a legal instrument on the control of small arms and light weapons in Central Africa and of a code of conduct for defence and security forces in Central Africa, and encourages interested countries to provide their financial support for the development of these two projects;

5. *Also welcomes* the holding at Yaoundé, from 4 to 6 September 2007, of a special conference of the Standing Advisory Committee on cross-border security issues in Central Africa, and takes note of its recommendations, particularly the recommendation relating to the project for the establishment of an international school in Cameroon to train African gendarmes and police in peacekeeping operations;

6. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to continue their efforts to promote peace and security in their subregion;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa;

8. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to pursue their efforts to render the early-warning mechanism for Central Africa fully operational as an instrument for analysing and monitoring the political situation in the subregion within the framework of the prevention of crises and armed conflicts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary assistance for its smooth functioning;

9. *Reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee, adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing its programme of work for the period 2006-2007;[5]

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

12. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

[5] A/62/129.

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue their assistance to the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

15. *Urges* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

16. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement resolution 1540 (2004), adopted by the Security Council on 28 April 2004, which deals with combating the use of and trafficking in nuclear, biological or chemical weapons and their means of delivery by non-State actors;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to ensure the continuation of their efforts;

18. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

United Nations A/62/393

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 November 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 100

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

"(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

"(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament"

was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984 and 61/98 and 61/99 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings,

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from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2007;[1]

(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;[2]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/62/309);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/62/152).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.3

5. At the 18th meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Uruguay, on behalf of the members of the extended Bureau of the Disarmament Commission, namely, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/62/L.3). Subsequently Kazakhstan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting the representative of Uruguay orally revised operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution by replacing the words "from 14 April to 2 May" with the words "from 7 to 24 April".

7. Also at the 23rd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.3, as orally revised, without a vote[3] (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.11

8. At the 17th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, on behalf of South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland and the Syrian Arab Republic, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/62/L.11).

9. At its 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.11 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution II).

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/62/42).

[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 27* (A/62/27).

[3] The representative of the United States of America made a statement indicating that the United States delegation would not participate in action on the draft resolution.

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

10. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005 and 61/98 of 6 December 2006,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 61/98, by which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the Commission's methods of work;

4. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[3]

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/62/42).

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

[3] A/CN.10/137.

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its 2008 substantive session:

(a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(b) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2008, namely from 7 to 24 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[4] together with all the official records of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/62/27).

Draft resolution II
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Taking note of active discussions held on the programme of work during the 2007 session of the Conference, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings,

Taking note also of the increased deliberations of the Conference due to the constructive contribution of its member States, the work done under the authority of the Presidents of the Conference for the 2007 session, including focused structured debates on all substantive agenda items and with the participation of experts from capitals, and the cooperation among all six Presidents of the Conference,

Taking note further of significant contributions made during the 2007 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2008 session,

Recognizing the messages of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Bearing in mind the importance of efforts towards revitalization of the disarmament machinery, including the Conference,

Recognizing the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the Conference membership,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Calls upon* the Conference to further intensify consultations and explore possibilities with a view to reaching an agreement on a programme of work;

3. *Takes note* of the strong collective interest of the Conference to build on the increased level and focus of its activities through 2007 and to commence substantive work as soon as possible during its 2008 session;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/62/27).

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations, as contained in paragraph 57 of its report;[1]

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work in its 2008 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

United Nations A/62/394

General Assembly

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9 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 101

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 61/103 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (A/62/95 (Part II)).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.2

5. At the 16th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" (A/C.1/62/L.2). Subsequently, Jordan and Qatar joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 22nd meeting, on 30 October, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.2, as follows:

(a) The sixth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 161 to 3, with 6 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Pakistan, Uganda.

(b) Draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.2, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 164 to 3, with 6 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh,

Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, India.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(51)/RES/17, adopted on 20 September 2007,[1]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[2] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty[3] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,[4]

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference on 11 May 1995,[2] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so,

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[1] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-first Regular Session, 17-21 September 2007* (GC(51)/RES/DEC(2007)).

[2] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[4] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article IX".

without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and seventy-seven States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[5] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[6]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[3] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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[5] See resolution 50/245.

[6] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 16.

United Nations A/62/395

General Assembly

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9 November 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 102

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 61/100 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV. 9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

07-54408 (E) 211107

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.32

5. At the 21st meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" (A/C.1/62/L.32). Subsequently, Albania, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Canada, Honduras, Israel, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama and Turkmenistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.32.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.32 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/100 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and the entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[1] and its amended article 1,[2] and the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[1] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[1] and its amended version,[3] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[1] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[4] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[5]

Welcoming the results of the Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and commending the efforts of the President of the Conference,

Welcoming also the decision of the Third Review Conference to commission follow-up work under the oversight of the Chairman-designate of a meeting of States Parties to the Convention to be held from 7 to 13 November 2007 in Geneva,[6] and the decision to convene, as a matter of urgency, an intersessional meeting of governmental experts to consider further the application and implementation of existing humanitarian law to specific munitions that may cause explosive remnants of war, with particular focus on cluster munitions, including the factors affecting their reliability and their technical and design characteristics, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of the use of these munitions,[7]

Welcoming further the holding, on 18 June 2007, of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the First Conference of the States Parties to Protocol V to be held on 5 November 2007 in Geneva for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues related to the operation of the Protocol,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[2] See CCW/CONF.II/2 and Corr.1, part II.

[3] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[4] Ibid., annex A.

[5] See CCW/MSP/2003/3, annex V, appendix II.

[6] See CCW/CONF.III/11 (Part II).

[7] Ibid.

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Third Review Conference of a Plan of Action to promote universality of the Convention and its annexed Protocols,[8] and expresses appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and the President of the Third Review Conference, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Third Review Conference to establish a Compliance Mechanism in order to promote compliance and the full implementation of the obligations contained in the Convention and its annexed Protocols;[9]

5. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Third Review Conference to establish a Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention, [10] and encourages States to contribute to the programme;

6. *Welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to address the humanitarian problems caused by certain specific types of munitions in all their aspects, including cluster munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of these munitions;

7. *Expresses support* for the work conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts and the decision of the Group, based on the substantive discussion on the application and implementation of existing humanitarian law at its intersessional meeting held in June 2007, without prejudice to the outcome, to recommend to the 2007 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention to decide how best to address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions as a matter of urgency, including the possibility of a new instrument;[11]

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[8] Ibid., annex III.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Ibid., annex IV.

[11] See CCW/GGE/2007/3, annex III.

8. *Notes* the decision of the Third Review Conference to dedicate up to two days at the next Meeting of the States Parties in 2007 to the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines;[12]

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V), and welcomes the commitment of States parties to the Protocol to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol;

10. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Ninth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention to be held on 6 November 2007, for the First Conference of the States Parties to Protocol V to be held on 5 November 2007, and for the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention to be held from 7 to 13 November 2007, as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Meetings, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1,[2] and the Protocols thereto;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

[12] See CCW/CONF.III/11 (Part II).

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Agenda item 103

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 61/101 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (A/62/111).

07-54402 (E) 211107

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.48

5. At the 16th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" (A/C.1/62/L.48). Subsequently, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 22nd meeting, on 30 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.48 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 61/101 of 6 December 2006,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular by the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[1]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

[1] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[3]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and

[2] A/62/111.

[3] See resolution 46/36 L.

illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 104

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 61/104 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (A/62/113 and Add.1);

07-54396 (E) 261107

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (A/62/135).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.28

5. At the 11th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of New Zealand, on behalf of Australia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" (A/C.1/62/L.28). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.28 by a recorded vote of 166 to 1, with 4 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Colombia, India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that after more than ten years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and seventy-seven States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of one hundred and forty States, including thirty-four of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 61/104 of 6 December 2006,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the Fifth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in Vienna on 17 and 18 September 2007,[1] pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

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[1] CTBT-Art.XIV/2007/6, annex.

5. *Calls for* a peaceful solution of the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula through successful implementation of the Joint Statement, and the initial and second-phase actions to implement it, agreed upon in the framework of the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it, and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 105

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 61/102 of 6 December 2006.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

07-54432 (E) 261107

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.37

5. At the 15th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Hungary introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" (A/C.1/62/L.37).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.37.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Hungary orally revised the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution by inserting the word "and" before the words "reached decisions" and deleting the words "and decided to establish an Implementation Support Unit" at the end of the paragraph.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.37, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 9).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

9. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and fifty-nine States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1] including all of the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[2] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference[3] that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Welcoming also the successful outcome of the Sixth Review Conference, which adopted a Final Document[4] after a gap of ten years,[5] conducted a consensus article-by-article review of the operation of the Convention and reached decisions on the continuity of the intersessional meetings of experts and States parties,

Recalling the decision reached at the Sixth Review Conference to hold four annual meetings of the States parties of one week's duration each year commencing in 2007, prior to the Seventh Review Conference, which is to be held not later than the end of 2011, and to hold a one-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,[6]

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1] reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the

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[1] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.
[2] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.
[3] BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.
[4] BWC/CONF.VI/6.
[5] The previous full review was conducted at the Fourth Review Conference in 1996.
[6] BWC/CONF.VI/6, part III, para. 7.

Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[2]

3. *Takes note* of the decision of the Sixth Review Conference, taking into account the importance of providing administrative support to meetings agreed by the Review Conference as well as comprehensive implementation and universalization of the Convention and the exchange of confidence-building measures, to establish an Implementation Support Unit, funded by States parties, for the period from 2007-2011,[7] within the framework defined by the Review Conference;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Sixth Review Conference agreed on several measures to update the mechanism for the transmission of information in the framework of the confidence-building measures;

5. *Recalls* the decisions reached at the Sixth Review Conference,[8] and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate in their implementation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

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[7] Ibid., part III, paras. 5 and 6.

[8] Ibid., part III, paras. 1 and 7.

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Agenda item 121

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly" and to allocate it to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work for 2008.

2. The First Committee considered the item at its 25th meeting, on 2 November 2007 (see A/C.1/62/PV.25).

3. At the 25th meeting, the Chairman made a statement and introduced the proposed programme of work.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its proposed programme of work and timetable for 2008, annexed to the present report.

5. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Proposed programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2008

The General Assembly approves the proposed programme of work and timetable of the Committee for 2008, as contained in the annex to the report of the First Committee.

07-58910 (E) 271107

Annex

Proposed programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2008

Programme meeting	*Dates*	*Number of meetings*
Meeting for the organization of work	Thursday, 2 October	1
General debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items[a]	Monday, 6 October to Tuesday, 14 October	7
Closure of the list of speakers for the general debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items	Tuesday, 7 October at 6 p.m.	
Thematic discussion on item subjects and introduction and consideration of all draft resolutions submitted under agenda items, including:	Wednesday, 15 October to Monday, 27 October	10
(a) Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at its past session/presentation of reports		
(b) Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials		
(c) Panel discussions and exchanges with independent experts[b]		
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions under all agenda items	Friday, 17 October at 6 p.m.	
Action on all draft resolutions submitted under agenda items	Tuesday, 28 October to Tuesday, 4 November	6

[a] A rolling list of speakers would be opened one month in advance of the beginning of the session. Delegations are encouraged to limit their statements to a maximum of ten minutes, and statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed fifteen minutes. The list would give priority to high-level representatives and should be regularly shared with the Committee so as to increase transparency.

[b] Wide civil society participation is encouraged.

Week	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*
29 September-3 October	29 September	30 September Holiday	1 October	2 October Afternoon	3 October
6-10 October	6 October Morning	7 October Morning	8 October Morning	9 October Morning	10 October Morning
13-17 October	13 October Afternoon	14 October Afternoon	15 October Afternoon	16 October Afternoon	17 October Afternoon
20-24 October	20 October Morning	21 October Morning and afternoon	22 October Morning	23 October Morning	24 October Afternoon
27-31 October	27 October Afternoon	28 October Afternoon	29 October Afternoon	30 October Afternoon	31 October Afternoon
3-7 November	3 November Morning	4 November Morning	5 November	6 November	7 November

The Committee will exercise flexibility in scheduling meetings during the last two weeks of the session, without prejudice to decisions to be taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

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Agenda item 129

Programme planning

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Programme planning" and to allocate it to the First Committee as well as to all the other Main Committees and the plenary of the Assembly to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

2. The need did not arise for the First Committee to take up this item during the main part of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly.

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Agenda item 29

Assistance in mine action

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Reniery **Valladares-Gómez** (Honduras)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item at its 17th, 18th, 21st and 22nd meetings, on 6, 7, 12 and 13 November 2007 (see A/C.4/62/SR.17, 18, 21 and 22). The Committee held a general debate on the item at its 17th and 18th meetings, on 6 and 7 November, and took action on the item at its 22nd meeting, on 13 November.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/62/307 and Corr.1-3).

4. At the 17th meeting, on 6 November, a representative of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat made an introductory statement. At the same meeting, the Committee held an interactive dialogue on the item with representatives of the Department, in the course of which the representatives heard comments and responded to questions (see A/C.4/62/SR.17).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/62/L.6

5. At its 21st meeting, on 12 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Assistance in mine action" (A/C.4/62/L.6), submitted by Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,

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Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

6. At the 22nd meeting, on 13 November, the Chairman orally amended footnote 4 of the draft resolution so that it read "A/62/307 and Corr.3".

7. At the same meeting, the Chairman stated that he had been informed by the Secretariat that there were no programme budget implications in connection with the draft resolution.

8. Also at its 22nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/62/L.6, as orally amended, without a vote (see para. 10).

9. At the same meeting, the representatives of the United States of America and Turkey made statements (see A/C.4/62/SR.22).

III. Recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

10. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Assistance in mine action*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/97 of 8 December 2005 and all its previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Recalling also all relevant treaties and conventions[1] and their review processes,

Taking special note of the tenth anniversary of the creation of the United Nations Mine Action Service within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, its designation as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system, and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all mine-related activities of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes,[2]

Noting with appreciation the extent to which the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action has been commemorated worldwide,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war[3] that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and explosive remnants of war pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year as well as the presence of a decreasing but still very large number of, and area of square kilometres infested by, mines and explosive remnants of war as a result of

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* As referred to in previous resolutions of the General Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action.

[1] These include the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, 1997; the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended in 1996 (Protocol II to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects); the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, 2003 (Protocol V to the 1980 Convention); the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 1977; and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (not yet in force).

[2] See resolution 53/26, para. 9.

[3] As defined by Protocol V to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

armed conflicts, and therefore remaining convinced of the necessity and urgency of strengthening mine-action efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war to civilians as soon as possible,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has a significant role to play in the field of assistance in mine action, and considering mine action to be an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities, as well as noting the integration of mine action in numerous United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

Stressing also the pressing need to urge non-State actors to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployments of mines and other associated explosive devices,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance in mine action;[4]

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of States, with the assistance of the United Nations and relevant organizations involved in mine action, as appropriate, to foster the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities in countries in which mines and explosive remnants of war constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local civilian population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels;

3. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and relevant organizations and institutions involved in mine action, as appropriate, to provide:

(a) Assistance to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war for the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities;

(b) Support for national programmes, where appropriate, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and relevant regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to reduce the risks posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war, taking into consideration the differing impacts on women, men, girls and boys;

(c) Reliable, predictable and timely contributions for mine-action activities, including through national mine-action efforts and mine-action programmes of non-governmental organizations, including those relating to victim assistance and mine risk education, especially at the local level, as well as through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and relevant regional trust funds for assistance in mine action;

(d) Necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance to locate, remove, destroy and otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby

[4] A/62/307 and Corr.3.

traps, other devices and explosive remnants of war, in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

(e) Technological assistance (i) to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war; and (ii) to promote user-oriented scientific research on and development of mine-action techniques and technology that are effective, sustainable, appropriate and environmentally sound;

4. *Encourages* efforts to conduct all mine-action activities in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) or IMAS-compliant national standards, and emphasizes the importance of using an information management system, such as the Information Management System for Mine Action, to help facilitate mine-action activities;

5. *Urges* all mine-affected States, pursuant to applicable international law, to identify all areas under their jurisdiction containing mines and other explosive remnants of war in the most efficient manner possible, including, where appropriate, through the use of area reduction;

6. *Encourages* affected States to proactively mainstream mine action and victim assistance requirements into development plans and processes to ensure that development priorities include mine action and that mine action is predictably funded;

7. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral, regional and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action, including mine clearance, in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national and local ownership, sustainability and capacity-building, as well as to include a gender and age-appropriate perspective in all aspects of such activities;

8. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation and coordination in mine action, and emphasizes the primary responsibility of national authorities in that regard, also stresses the supporting role of the United Nations and other relevant organizations in that regard, and underlines the need for continuous assessment of the role of the United Nations in mine action;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of explicitly incorporating references to mine action, when appropriate, in ceasefire and peace agreements in light of the potential that mine action can have as a peace and confidence-building measure in post-conflict situations among parties concerned;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on follow-up to previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, including on relevant United Nations policies and activities;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

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Agenda item 30

Effects of atomic radiation

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Reniery **Valladares-Gómez** (Honduras)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Effects of atomic radiation" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item and held a general debate on it at its 12th meeting, on 29 October 2007 (see A/C.4/62/SR.12).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation.[1]

4. At the 12th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Australia, in her capacity as Chair of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, made a statement (see A/C.4/62/SR.12).

5. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation made a presentation.

6. Also, at its 12th meeting, the Committee held an interactive dialogue on the item in the form of a question and answer session, during which the Secretary of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation responded to questions from representatives of four Member States and the Chair of the Fourth Committee on various aspects of work of the Scientific Committee (see A/C.4/62/SR.12).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/62/46).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/62/L. 5

7. At the 12th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Effects of atomic radiation" (A/C.4/62/L.5).

8. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement regarding the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.4/62/SR.12).

9. Also at the 12th meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement in explanation of position (see A/C.4/62/SR.12).

10. At its 12th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/62/L.5 without a vote (see para. 11).

III. Recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

11. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 61/109 of 14 December 2006, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the Scientific Committee, and of the release of its report on its fifty-fifth session,[1]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Noting the views expressed by Member States at its sixty-second session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,

Noting also the deep concern of the Scientific Committee that reliance on a single post at the Professional level in its secretariat has left the Committee seriously vulnerable and has hampered the efficient implementation of its approved programme of work,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past fifty-two years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee,

3. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources;

4. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for completing its present programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly and for developing a longer-term strategic plan for

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/62/46).

its work, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its future programme of work to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of ionizing radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

6. *Recalls* the intention of the Scientific Committee, expressed in paragraph 5 of its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session,[2] to clarify further the assessment of potential harm owing to chronic low-level exposures among large populations and also the attributability of health effects, and encourages the Committee to submit a report on that issue at its earliest convenience;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States, and endorses, on an exceptional basis, the intention of the Committee to convene its fifty-sixth session for seven days in order to finalize its next substantive report;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

9. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

10. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of ionizing radiation in affected areas, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

11. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

13. *Appeals* to the Secretary-General to take appropriate administrative measures so that the secretariat can adequately service the Scientific Committee in a predictable and sustainable manner and effectively facilitate the use of the invaluable expertise offered to the Committee by its members in order that the Committee may discharge the responsibilities and mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly;

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[2] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 46* and corrigendum (A/61/46 and Corr.1).

14. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to review and strengthen the present funding of the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 13 of resolution 61/109, and to continue to seek out and consider temporary funding mechanisms to complement existing ones, and, in that context, takes note of the establishment by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme of a general trust fund to receive and manage voluntary contributions to support the work of the Scientific Committee, and encourages Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

15. *Welcomes* that Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine have informed the President of the General Assembly before 28 February 2007, in accordance with paragraph 14 of resolution 61/109, of their desire to become members of the Scientific Committee, and invites each of those six Member States to designate one scientist to attend, as observers, the fifty-sixth session of the Committee;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive and consolidated report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, to be prepared in consultation with the Scientific Committee as appropriate, addressing the financial and administrative implications of increased Committee membership, staffing of the professional secretariat and methods to ensure sufficient, assured and predictable funding.